

A circular stamp with the text "OPIE" at the top, "JC 26 926" at the top right, "JAN 23 2002" in the center, and "PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" at the bottom.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

5711751  
PATENT  
#7A/13M  
2-13-02  
OFFICE

RE  
FER

Applicant:	Timothy D. Evans et al.	: Art Unit: 1731
Application No.:	09/700,475	: Examiner: M. Steve Alvo
Filed:	January 11, 2001	:
FOR:	PEROXIDE, OXYGEN, AND	:
	PEROXIDE/OXYGEN	:
	BRIGHTENING OF CHEMICAL	:
	AND MIXED WASTE PULPS	:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO  
OFFICE ACTION MAILED SEPTEMBER 19, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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SIR:

In response to the Office Action of September 19, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows and reconsider the application in view of the amendments and remarks provided below.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace claims 1, 9 and 20 with the following amended claims:

1                   1. (Amended) A combination of additives for use in a  
2 brightening stage of pulps containing less than 18% lignin, said combination  
3 comprising: an aqueous solution of sodium silicate; an alkali agent added in an  
4 amount sufficient to maintain a pH of said solution at least about 8; and a  
5 magnesium compound which dissociates in said solution to form  $Mg(OH)^+$  cations,  
6 wherein said magnesium compound is added in an amount to achieve, along with